

HISTORY 349
HEALTH AND THE HEALER IN WESTERN HISTORY

Prof. T. Schlich
Fall Term 2003
Tuesday/Thursday 14.35-15.55
Leacock Building, room 219

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office hours: Tuesday 16:00-17:00 and Wednesday 14.00-15:00 in room 203, Dept. of Social Studies of Medicine, 3647 Peel Street . Office hours for TAs to be announced.

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E-mail: You can e-mail me or any of the TAs directly from the WebCT site for this course. Click on "Communications Tools", and then "Mail". Browse the Address Book, and select "Professor Schlich". TAs' names are in the alphabetical sequence in the WebCT Address Book.

A WEBCT COURSE

This course makes use of WebCT. All students registered for this course can enter its Web CT site at <http://webct3.mcgill.ca>. Click on "Log into my Web CT", and log in using your student number and Minerva PIN. If you encounter difficulties, please e-mail the WebCT office. Their e-mail (clickable from the foot of the WebCT home-page) is webct@mcgill.ca. Be sure to give them your name, course number, and reply e-mail. **Please note that I cannot solve login problems with WebCT; please contact the WebCT office for assistance.**

Available on the WebCT site are (or will be shortly):

- this course guide
- instructions for all assignments
- outlines of lectures (essentially the lecture overheads, with additional comments)
- sample examinations

WebCT also has a built-in e-mail system (under "Communications Tools), which I will use to communicate with you either collectively or individually. You may also e-mail me through WebCT.

- under "Communications Tools", click "Compose a message"

- click "Browse" button next to the address line in the blank form, and an address book will appear
- my name is at the top of the list; highlight it, and click "Done".
- compose your message and click "send" (your sent messages will be stored).

ABOUT THIS COURSE

This course is a survey of the history of medicine in the Western world (Europe and North America) from antiquity to the present. It aims:

- ◆ to sketch in chronological sequence the main lines of the evolution of medicine both as a kind of knowledge and as a practice;
- ◆ to examine the ways in which the body, health and disease were conceptualized in the past, and to situate the major shifts in medical knowledge and practice in the context of broader historical changes in Western society;
- ◆ to examine the changing role of "the healer" over time, and in cultural and social context;
- ◆ to track the evolution of some of the major institutional frameworks of medicine, such as medical education and hospitals;
- ◆ to analyse the ways in which historical societies and their healers have interacted in the face of medical challenges.

The course is divided into three parts. **Part 1 "Western Traditional Medicine"** covers the longest time span -- from prehistory to the end of the 18th century. During this time period, Western medical ideas and practices evolved within what was essentially a stable paradigm. Western views of the nature of the body and of illness, and of the role of the healer, were grounded in concepts like "complexion" and "imbalance" which are shared by other historic healing systems, such as Chinese traditional medicine and Ayurveda. However, there are also distinctively Western elements in this paradigm, which created the conditions for a momentous change. **Part 2 "Modern Medicine"** describes this change. Beginning at the close of the 18th century, Western medicine replaced "complexion" with the notion of the body as a biological organism, and "imbalance" with new theories of disease origin and process. This change is paralleled by massive social, economic and cultural changes in society at large. As a result, the way doctors and patients interacted, and the settings in which they encountered one another, were transformed. **Part 3 "Medicine in the 20th Century"** looks at the triumphs and the problems of modern medicine in the context of a rapidly changing society, and the all-embracing power of modern bureaucracy. All these have profoundly shaped the way Westerners understand health and the healer.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to:

1. Purchase the course pack at Paragraphe Book Store (McGill College Avenue, between Sherbrooke St. and de Maisonneuve), and do the readings for each lecture, as assigned below. The readings are extremely important; you will be asked questions about them on both the mid-term and the final examinations.
2. Do the following assignments:

Written exercise 1 (3-5pp): primary source analysis 10%

-due **Tuesday 7 October**

Mid-term quiz 20%

-to be held in class on **Tuesday 14 October**

Written exercise 2 (5-7pp) historiographical essay: 30%

-due **Thursday 13 November**

•All assignments must be received on or before the due date, either in class or in the History Dept. main office (Leacock Building, 6th floor) before 5:00 p.m. One mark is deducted for every working day an assignment is in arrears.

Final examination 40% (in formal exam period)

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the code of student conduct and disciplinary procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/integrity for more information).

COURSE CALENDAR

Thu, 4 Sept: Introduction

PART 1. WESTERN TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

Tue, 9 Sept: Preliterate Societies and the Ancient Near East

Don Handelman, "The Development of a Washo Shaman", *Ethnology* 6 (1967), pp. 427-38; J. Worth Estes, "Egyptian Healers", in *The Medical Skills of Ancient Egypt* (Canton, MA: Science History Publications, 1986), ch.. 2 (Egyptian Healers), pp. 13-26.

Thu, 11 Sept: Ancient Greece

Vivian Nutton, "Medicine in the Greek World, 800-50BC", in *The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to AD 1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), pp. 11-38.
Don Bates and George Weisz, "The Power to Heal", *Essays in Medical History*.
Source: The Hippocratic Oath.

Tue, 16 Sept: Roman Medicine and Galen

Vivian Nutton, "Roman Medicine, 250BC to AD 200", in *The Western Medical Tradition 800BC to AD 1800* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), pp. 39-70.

Thu, 18 Sept: From Galen to "Galenism": Medicine in Late Antiquity, Islam, and the Early Medieval West

Roy Porter, "The Legacy of Galen" and "Islam", in *The Greatest Benefit to Mankind* (New York: Harper Collins, 1997), pp. 88-105.

Tue, 23 Sept: Medieval Medicine I: The Birth of Academic Medicine

Katherine Park, "Medicine and Society in Medieval Europe, 500-1500", in *Medicine in Society. Historical Essays*, ed. by Andrew Wear (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992), pp. 59-90.

Thu, 25 Sept: Medieval Medicine II: Disease

Faith Wallis, "Disease in the Middle Ages: The Cases of Leprosy and Plague", in Don Bates and George Weisz, *Essays in Medical History*.

Tue, 30 Sept: Classic Chinese and Indian Medicine

Don Bates and George Weisz, "Scholarly Medicine: Chinese", in *Essays in Medical History*. Don Bates and George Weisz, "Scholarly Medicine: Ayurvedic", in *Essays in Medical History*. Shigshisa Kuriyama, "Pulse Diagnosis in the Greek and Chinese Traditions", in *History of Diagnosis*, ed. by Yosio Kawakita (The Ianiguchi Foundation, 1987), pp. 43-67.

Thu, 2 Oct: Renaissance Medicine

Katherine Park: "Medicine and the Renaissance", in Irvin Loudon (ed.), *Western Medicine: An Illustrated History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997), pp. 66-79.

Tue, 7 Oct: Medicine and the Scientific Revolution

Don Bates and George Weisz, "William Harvey and the Beginnings of Modern Medical Science", in *Essays in Medical History*.

Thu, 9 Oct: The 17th and 18th Centuries

Guenther B. Risse, "Medicine in the Age of Enlightenment", in *Medicine in Society. Historical Essays*, ed. by Andrew Wear (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992), pp. 149-195.

Tue, 14 Oct: MID-TERM QUIZ

PART 2. MODERN MEDICINE

Thu, 16 Oct: Modern Medical Science I: The Clinical Revolution

Don Bates and George Weisz: "The Two Revolutions in Western Science", in *Essays in Medical History*. William F. Bynum: *Science and the Practice of Medicine in the Nineteenth Century* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994), pp. 25-54.

Tue, 21 Oct: Modern Medical Science II: The Laboratory Revolution

William F. Bynum: *Science and the Practice of Medicine in the Nineteenth Century* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994), pp. 92-109, 123-137, 158-164.

Thu, 23 Oct: The Evolution of Hospitals

Lindsay Granshaw, "The Hospital", in *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine*, ed. by William F. Bynum and Roy Porter (London: Routledge, 1993), vol. 2, pp. 1180-1203.

Tue, 28 Oct: Public Health

Dorothy Porter, "Public Health", in *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine*, ed. by William F. Bynum and Roy Porter (London: Routledge, 1993), vol. 2, pp. 1231-1261.

Thu, 30 Oct: The Rise of Surgery

Thomas Schlich: "The Emergence of Modern Surgery", unpublished essay.

Tue, 4 Nov: The Making of the Modern Medical Profession

Matthew Ramsey, "The Politics of Professional Monopoly in 19th Century Medicine", in *Professions and the French State*, ed. G. Geison (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1984), pp. 225-305.

Thu, 6 Nov: The Role of Medicine in the Modern Rise in Health

Stephen J. Kunitz, "Medicine, Mortality and Morbidity", in *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine*, ed. by William F. Bynum and Roy Porter (London: Routledge, 1993), vol. 2, pp. 1693-1711. Don Bates and George Weisz: "The Healer and the Modern Rise in Health", in *Essays in Medical History*.

PART 3. MEDICINE IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Tue, 11 Nov: The Twentieth Century

Allan M. Brandt and Martha Gardner, "The Golden Age of Medicine?", in *Medicine in the Twentieth Century* ed. by Roger Cooter and John Pickstone (Amsterdam: Harwood Academic Publishers, 2000), pp. 21-37. E.M. Tansey, "From the Germ Theory to 1945", in *Western Medicine: An Illustrated History*, ed. by Irvin Loudon (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997), pp. 102-122.

Don Bates and George Weisz: "Health Insurance", in *Essays in Medical History*.

Thu, 13 Nov: Bio-Medicine

Stephen Lock, "Medicine in the Second Half of the Twentieth Century", in *Western Medicine: An Illustrated History*, ed. by Irvin Loudon (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997), pp. 123-144.

Tue, 18 Nov: Clinical Trials

Harry M. Marks, "Trust and Mistrust in the Marketplace. Statistics and Clinical Research, 1945-1960", *History of Science* 38 (2000), 343-355.

Thu, 20 Nov: Human Experimentation

Susan Lederer, *Subjected to Science: Human Experimentation in America before the Second World War* (1995), xiii-xvi, 1-26. T. Benedek and J. Erlen, "The Scientific Environment of the Tuskegee Study of Syphilis, 1920-1960", in *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine* 43 (1999), pp. 1-30.

Tue, 25 Nov: Health and Disease in Modern Africa

David Arnold, "Medicine and Colonialism", in *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine*, ed. by William F. Bynum and Roy Porter (London: Routledge, 1993), vol. 2, pp. 1393-1416. Randall M. Packard, "Post-Colonial Medicine", in *Medicine in the Twentieth Century* ed. by Roger Cooter and John Pickstone (Amsterdam: Harwood Academic Publishers, 2000), pp. 97-112.

Thu, 27 Nov: Alternative Medicine

Norman Gevitz, "Unorthodox Medical Systems", in *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine*, ed. by William F. Bynum and Roy Porter (London: Routledge, 1993), vol. 1, pp. 603-633. Don Bates "Why not Call Modern Medicine 'Alternative'?", in *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine* 40 (2000), pp. 1-17.

Tue, 2 Dec: The 21st Century